

S
625.7
H3c m

July-Aug.
1973



STATE DOCUMENTS

SEP 12 1973 MSL

CENTER

LINE

MONTANA'S HIGHWAYS

Published bi-monthly for the employees of the
Montana Department of Highways, state-wide.

PUBLISHED SINCE JANUARY, 1938

ASHTON'S

July-August, 1973

Olson Named To New Post

John Olson, formerly of Spokane, Washington, was hired July 23rd as the coordinator of conventions and packaged tours for Montana, and is attached to the Advertising and Information Unit of the Department of Highways. This promotional-sales activity represents a new thrust for the Department. Olson says his job, as he sees it, is that of supporting the various communities and Chambers of Commerce of the State in developing convention and tours.

Considering the entire nation as a sales field, Olson says that he will work closely with executive directors of national and regional organizations in a concerted effort to sell them on the Big Sky Country. He believes, however, that capturing conventions is a community job in many instances. "My role," he says, "is to bring them to the state. From there, it can be up to the communities themselves. If outside help is needed, it can be given readily." At the outset, with every sales tool available presently, he will be persuading groups of all types to hold conventions in Montana while at the same time offering help to Montana cities in finding groups they might like to host in conventions.

(continued on page 2)

Letter to the Editor
Shelby Promoter and Tribune
Thursday, May 17, 1973

As a final tribute to my husband, Harold Robert Jimison, I would like to write an open letter to our community. I have so many thanks to express.

People wondered about his condition, and come up and ask about the circumstances surrounding his death and I would like to publicly express my feelings in this regard.

On April 18 at 3 a.m., he left our home in the middle of the night, as he did before without acclaim or valor. No one ever knew but me!

This particular night it was not storming, the roads were not icy—nor had pranksters been busy shifting barricades out on the lanes of the Interstate. This time, it was a semi-load of hay, the driver, who in haste, tried to turn the corner too fast and blocked both lanes of the Interstate highway with his hay. As many times before, the Montana Highway Patrol and Sheriff's Office called our home. One last time Harold took his final distress call in the middle of the night.

Lifting hay bales was not the best exercise for a man with a

Final tribute to a man who gave his life in the dedication of serving the public.

bad heart, but as before, the road was blocked and it was his duty to open up the road so people could be free to travel without delay, even though he overstrained his heart doing his duty.

He was a man dedicated to his job and more than that he was proud of his job.

He spent nine days in the Deaconess hospital in Great Falls and was dismissed Friday, April 27, to go home and rest. He was at home only one evening before his return to Toole County hospital.

I am grateful to all our friends who supported us in our sorrow. My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you from our family.

In writing this letter, may this help people remember when you do see the State of Montana Highway department or the Montana Highway Patrol, whether it be in a storm or at anytime of day or night, give them the respect they deserve. As with Harold Jimison, they are dedicated to their jobs and can only do their best.

Harold laid down his life for
(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

The tour packaging department involves devising a series in-state tours of definite durations which can be sold to European or Oriental tour wholesalers. This activity will bring Europeans and Japanese, as examples, into our Big Sky scene.

Olson, who was most recently sales manager for the Davenport Hotel in Spokane, and was a sales representative for Northwest Airlines in Spokane and the East Coast, plans a series of trips within the state to get detailed looks at what the cities can offer in the way of lodging, shopping, transportation and other convention facilities.

**CENTER LINE
MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF HIGHWAYS**

**THOMAS L. JUDGE
GOVERNOR**

**GEORGE VUCANOVICH
CHAIRMAN
Helena**

**WILLIAM M. KESSNER
VICE CHAIRMAN
Black Eagle**

**G.R. COONEY
Butte**

**PIERRE L. BACHELLER
Billings**

**JAY LALONDE
Sidney**

**W.D. LEROUX
SECRETARY
Helena**

**H.J. ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS**

Newsletter published by the information unit of the Montana Department of Highways, Helena, Montana, 59601. Designed for highway personnel as a state-wide medium of information. All material in this publication may be reprinted without special permission.

**BEVERLY GIBSON, EDITOR
Division Correspondents**

Billings	James Young
Bozeman	Pat Letendre
Butte	Karen Markovich
Glendive	Nancy Siegle
Great Falls	Ciel Tinelli
Havre	Edna Hess
Helena	Bev Gibson
Kalispell	Bob Finley
Lewistown	Bea Knerr
Miles City	Jean Sweeney
Missoula	Clara Neely
Wolf Point	Ollie Hauge

News items of interest to Highway Department employees are invited. They should be given to the correspondents listed above.

Despite the fact that he is married and is the father of four children, travel poses no difficulties for him.



Olson

"Travel is a way of life for me," he says. "It has been for years."

Olson's wife's name is Cathryn. His children include: Jeffrey, aged 14 years; Patricia, 13; John, Jr., all of 11; and then Stephanie, at a ripe old age of 5. John was born in Clarkfield, Minnesota; his wife in New Gloucester, Maine; and all of his children were born in Alexandria, Virginia.

As a token, rather, of his unique occupation, the Information Unit was startled when faced with the task of ordering simple business cards—simple in every conventional way: except that John wants the backs of batches of cards to have the front side information reproduced in, for example: Japanese—German—Swedish—French—Italian, etc.

Sometimes we think we have trouble doing it first in English!

(continued from page 1)

his job. What more devotion to duty can one man do, than give his life to help another?

In turn, the people of our community responded to Harold's family in our time of need. And really is that not what life is all about?

**God Bless and many thanks,
Mrs. Harold Jimison
Shelby**

Letter

Dear Sirs:

You have the best rest area we have ever stopped at. The Governor can be proud of you. We hope everyone helps you take good care of it.

**A.E. Bigler
Arizona**

Gray, McCoskery,

Johnson Die;

Will Be Missed

Three well-known highway employees died recently. They were Vernon L. Gray, assistant supervisor, safety, Billings; Woodrow McCoskery, designer 3, road design, Helena; and Paul M. Johnson, retired state highway engineer, Billings.

Vern Gray died in the Billings Deaconess hospital July 12. He was born in Camp Crook, S. D. and attended schools in Buffalo, Wyo. He served in the U. S. Army during World War II. He was employed by Buckingham Transportation Co. until 1964 when he was employed by the Montana Department of Highways. He was married to Lila Hardesty (former radio-teletype operator in the Helena headquarters) in 1969, who survives. Funeral services were in Helena July 14.

Woody McCoskery died May 30. He was born in North Dakota but attended Helena schools, graduating from Helena High School. He came to work for the department in 1945 as a draftsman in the road plans department. He was promoted to detailer in 1955, designer I in 1948, designer II in 1960 and designer III in 1969.

Paul Johnson was born in Iowa but came to Montana at such an early age that he considered himself a native of the state. He spent most of his working years in the Treasure State with the exception of six years during which he was employed by the city engineer's office of Puyallup, Wash. He started with the highway department in 1932 in the bridge section. He left in 1945 but returned in 1954 as resident engineer. He was promoted to district engineer of the Billings district and in the spring of 1960 he was named State Highway Engineer in Helena. He graduated from Montana State University and was a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the National Society of Professional Engineers. He retired from the department March 1, 1967. His funeral was in Billings June 25.

Notes From Visitors Desk

Visitors to the Information Desk have included a blind man, Sam Davis of Colbert, Washington. He was escorted by two ladies, and seemed to be enjoying his visit.

Foreign visitors to the desk have been as far away as Nepal, Australia, and Belfast, North Ireland. All seem to enjoy the countryside and the friendliness of Montana's people. One visitor was a father of three sons dressed identically in blue plaid shirts. The children were talking gaily in French while the father gathered information about Helena.

One amiable couple from Springfield, Mass., said that so far the biggest thrill on their trip was when

Employees Retire, Others Promoted In Headquarters Reassignments

John Prebil, chief, accounting bureau, has been named administrator of centralized services division to replace Howard Buswell who retired July 6.

Prebil has been chief accountant since September 21, 1970. He is a graduate of the University of Montana. Following service with the U. S. Marine Corps he joined the highway department in September

Mr. Schapple was kissed on the cheek by the heroine of the Virginia City Players. They left my desk then in search of sapphires, and I'm sure that will be as much of a thrill, if they find some.

Lisa Conger

1958 as a clerk in the right of way section. Later he transferred to the accounting section and in May, 1962 he was promoted to assistant chief accountant.

Steve Puhek, supervisor claims section, has been named budget analyst to replace Les Simkins who resigned to take a position with the Department of Administration Budget Bureau.

Puhek will retain the title of supervisor-claims. He was born in Bearcreek, Mt. (near Red Lodge) and attended schools there. He received a degree in industrial engineering from Montana State University, and a degree in accounting from the University of Utah. Puhek spent 18 months in the Army Corps of Engineers during World War II, worked for International Harvester Co. in Billings for 12 years, the Eimco Corp. in Salt Lake City for four years, and came to the highway department in July 1970 as an auditor in Internal Review.

Howard Johnson, review appraiser from Missoula, transferred to Helena to become Land Agent in right of way, replacing Emory Reuterdaahl who retired.

Johnson was born in Hawley, Minn. and attended Missouri State Teachers College. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II. Johnson joined the highway department in July 1958 as right of way office coordinator in the Butte division. In January 1964 he moved to Missoula.

Reuterdaahl was employed by the department for 32 years. Before that time he was secretary in the Governor's office, serving under three different Governors for more than five years. He was born in Miles City and moved to Helena in 1936. During World War II he served with the U. S. Air Force in the South Pacific for four years. He later served as Flotilla Commander for the Helena Coast Guard Auxiliary and is past secretary of the Montana Chapter of the American Right of Way Association.

WESTERN HIGHWAY GOLF TOURNAMENT Polson, July 21-22, 1973

MEN'S DIVISION

CHAMPIONSHIP FLITE

1st	Webster Bridges, Helena	162
2nd	Bill Bork, Boulder	166
3rd	Art Braut, Miles City	167
4th	Ace Schultz, Helena	169

FIRST FLITE

1st	Wayne Gryde, Kalispell	170
2nd	Homer Wheeler, Helena	177
3rd	Elliot Barkell, Bozeman	178

SECOND FLITE

1st	Del Braun, Superior	174
2nd	Gene McMahon, Helena	180
3rd	Hank Butzlaff, Helena	181

THIRD FLITE

1st	Gerald Charlton, Helena	188
2nd	George Snyder, Helena	192
3rd	Les Swisher, Missoula	198
4th	Howard Stockwell, Kalispell	198

FOURTH FLITE

1st	Wayne Krebsbach, Helena	199
2nd	Bill Hebert, Kalispell	203
3rd	Ed Furnish, Lewistown	206
4th	Harry Strong, Great Falls	208

LADIES DIVISION

CHAMPIONSHIP FLITE

1st	Betty Masters, Deer Lodge	201
2nd	Dorothy Barkell, Bozeman	207

FIRST FLITE

1st	Betty Erickson, Helena	247
2nd	Betty McGiffin, Polson	254
3rd	May Briscoe, Great Falls	270

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Havre

Edna Hess

Stacey E. Eckert, instrumentman on Hugh Klepzig's crew stationed at Cut Bank, was married on April 30 to Edith May Dennis.

Robert L. Bleecker, rodman, was married on June 26 to Junetta Wines. Robert is also employed on Hugh Klepzig's crew.

Gary Gillies, maintenanceman 3 employed in the Havre shop, was married to Valerie Harris on June 30th.

Mrs. Harold Jimison wrote a fine tribute to her husband in a letter to the editor of the Shelby Promoter and Tribune. Harold Jimison was maintenance supervisor on the section from Shelby to Conrad and died of a heart attack. See box on page 1.

Glendive

Nancy Siegle

June 1 was the date our office manager, Tony Scherting retired. Tony had been with the Department of Highways since 1948. He started as a gravel checker in the lab and transferred to stockman in 1953. Tony came to the office in 1958 and had been office manager until the time of his retirement. Tony, his wife and three daughters were invited to the division office Friday afternoon for coffee and cake. Many of the employees dropped in to wish Tony good luck and to look over the transistor radio and two-suiter suitcase they all contributed to-



Scherting

wards. The Schertings left for a trip to the west coast and will come back

by way of Bozeman, where they plan to stop and do a little relaxing along the Gallatin river. We wish Tony good luck and good health in his retirement years.

Bob Eggebrecht, who was senior clerk was promoted to office manager July 14. Congratulations to Bob.

Nancy Buller, from Savage, is our new summer helper. She attends Dawson College and will return in the fall as a sophomore. With two Nancys around here it gets mighty confusing, but to tell us apart, we are Nancy "B" and Nancy "S".

Clyde Mitchell returned to work in early June after being off for an operation on his knee.

Ross Major, right of way coordinator, resigned July 1 to take a job as sales representative with New Holland, and we hear there will be a little Major at their home around the end of February 1974.

Carole Curtiss surprised us with a visit in early June. She was up visiting her parents and dropped in to show off her little boy, four-month-old Justin Arlin.

Gary Gray, rodman, resigned July 20 to take employment at Burlington Northern.

Keith Keysor, truck driver, has resigned to accept employment for the county at Circle.

Betty and Maynard Henke left Friday on their new 500 cc Honda motorcycles for a trip to Minnesota and maybe Canada. They plan to be gone about a week.

Missoula

Clara Neely

A no-host cocktail hour and banquet were held at the local Elks Club to honor recent retirees, W.W. Beckwith, Robert Hutton, Romaine Johnson, and Russ Thompson. A large crowd was on hand for the festivities.

Lorren Claridge has completed 25 years of service, Clifford Skaggs, 15 years, and Peter Odegard, 10 years.

Howard L. Johnson, review appraiser, has transferred to the Land Records Unit in Helena, and Mike Panisko, right of way office coordinator, has transferred to the

Utility Section in Helena.

Ed Mosier is vacationing in Reno, Nev., and Shelley Picotte is spending a couple of weeks with her parents and family in Washington, D.C. The Ben Millers are visiting a daughter in South Dakota.

Cliff Dishman has been on the sick list for several weeks. Richard Price is tending a broken leg, which he suffered in an automobile accident while enroute to his work in Superior on June 21.

Baron M. "Skip" Gray and his wife are the proud parents of a baby son, which they just recently adopted. Skip, we are so sorry about the untimely death of your father. It was truly a pleasure to know him, and we all looked forward to his occasional visits to the Missoula division.

Missoula is becoming famous for its classic intersections, namely, "The South-Russell-93 Strip Flash-rams," the "Addison-Mount, Bancroft-93 Strip Kamikaze Special," and the "Van Buren-Broadway Tourist taxer."

Lewistown

Bea Knerr

Vacation time finds our gang at various places of excitement and doing many exciting things. The A.E. Harchariks spent time at Martinsdale just fishing and relaxing. LeRoy Ellis and family traveled to Oregon and on to Canada visiting relatives and friends. Billie and Ed Furnish went to Polson for the Western Golfing tournament and Ed got home with a little winnings. Pauline Stephens, Don and Mildred Butterfield are on their way to Europe for the tour. Vern and Bea Knerr headed to Livingston to attend the Moose convention.

Alex Ragenovich and wife, Bernice traveled to Montreal, Canada where Alex was a delegate to Kiwanis convention, then on to Kansas City where they visited Bernice's folks.

Many fishing trips have been taken, especially paddle fishing, which seems to be the sport this year.

A retirement party was held the first of June for three retirees who

WITH THE DIVISIONS

have served their time. Elmer Bianchi, sectionman, of White Sulphur Springs retired last January, but has been traveling, as has Henry Lengemann, Winnett sectionman. These two men have served many years for the highway between them, and now they have been so busy traveling it was hard to catch them stopped long enough to give them a retirement party. Aaron Holliday, night man who has served about 12 years with the highway, took his retirement and moved to the Roundup area to make his home. There were about 100 friends and fellow employees at the Yogo Inn to wish these men well and happiness in their future plans. Local Union 1073 was responsible for this get-together.

Then there was a no-host luncheon at the Yogo Inn in honor of Alex Ragenovich who retired after 26 years of loyal service to the highway, as division office engineer 3. We will miss Alex, but he will miss us as well. Congratulations to all.

Our Union-Highway picnic was held August 5 at the Central Montana fairgrounds for union members and their friends.

Don't forget the Eastern Golf tournament to be held in Lewistown on August 25 and 26. A good time is in store for all. For more information contact the Lewistown division office.

Marion Marshall, our temporary typist, is enjoying her lovely flower garden and her various activities. Her place in the office is deserted and vacant, but our thanks go out to her for her many contributions to all during her short stay.

Wolf Point

— Ollie Hauge —

Service awards totaling 100 years of service were presented to six employees of the department at the Wolf Point headquarters by Dean V. Borgen, chief-field maintenance bureau, and Vernon D. Borden, supervisor-division construction section. The following received pins: Gunwald Brenden, 25 years; Duane Novakovich, 20 years; Francis Delaney, 30 years; Palmer Roland, 5 years; Nick Boysun, 10 years; and



Ollie Hauge, 10 years. Congratulations to all of you.

Joseph Christensen of Plentywood was presented his 20 year service pin by Dean Borgen this past week. Congratulations, Joe.



Christensen

David Zoanni and Sandra Timms have resigned to accept other employment. They had been employed on Jim Baldwin's crew at Culbertson. Marty Strauser and Dale Smith have joined the ranks for summer work with the construction gang at Wolf Point headquarters. Welcome, guys.

We have some more summer employees who recently joined the "family." Donald Sansaver at Wolf Point; Alvey Beck at Culbertson; Robin Selvig at Plentywood; and Wayne Paulson who returned to Malta. All are employed on maintenance.

We previously mentioned the budding beards with the advent of spring—well, the days of the big Wolf Point Stampede finally came, and with it came the beard judging contest. Guess who walked in this morning with first place trophy for the goatee...none other than our Leroy Anderson, instrumentman on Duane Novakovich's crew. He also took third place for his mustache. That was because there were only three entrants, but the goatee winning was really legit. The unveiling will take place next

Sunday and we'll be able to see what the real Leroy looks like again. We are proud of you, Leroy. We hadn't realized all your capabilities.

Agnes Hesper has joined our ranks as a temporary for the summer in our office to help out during vacations, etc. Betty Stone took advantage of the situation immediately and spent two weeks in the hospital. Surely nice to have her back, we missed her. Welcome to the family, Agnes, and to Brad Lindblom who is being employed at Plentywood for the summer.

Helena-Hdq.

— Bev Gibson —

Grover Powers and his wife have shucked city living for the country life. They sold their Helena home and bought two acres of land north of East Helena and set out a nifty new mobil home. Their summer activities included putting in a new lawn and concrete patio and entertaining their grandchildren. Later Grover was feeling feisty because someone stole all his fishing gear while he was out on a fly-fishing trip.

Brad Plymale, son of Arlene Plymale, budget office, has joined the Peace Corps. A graduate of MSU in government, Brad will be stationed at British Honduras for two years. His 9-week training was in Costa Rica.

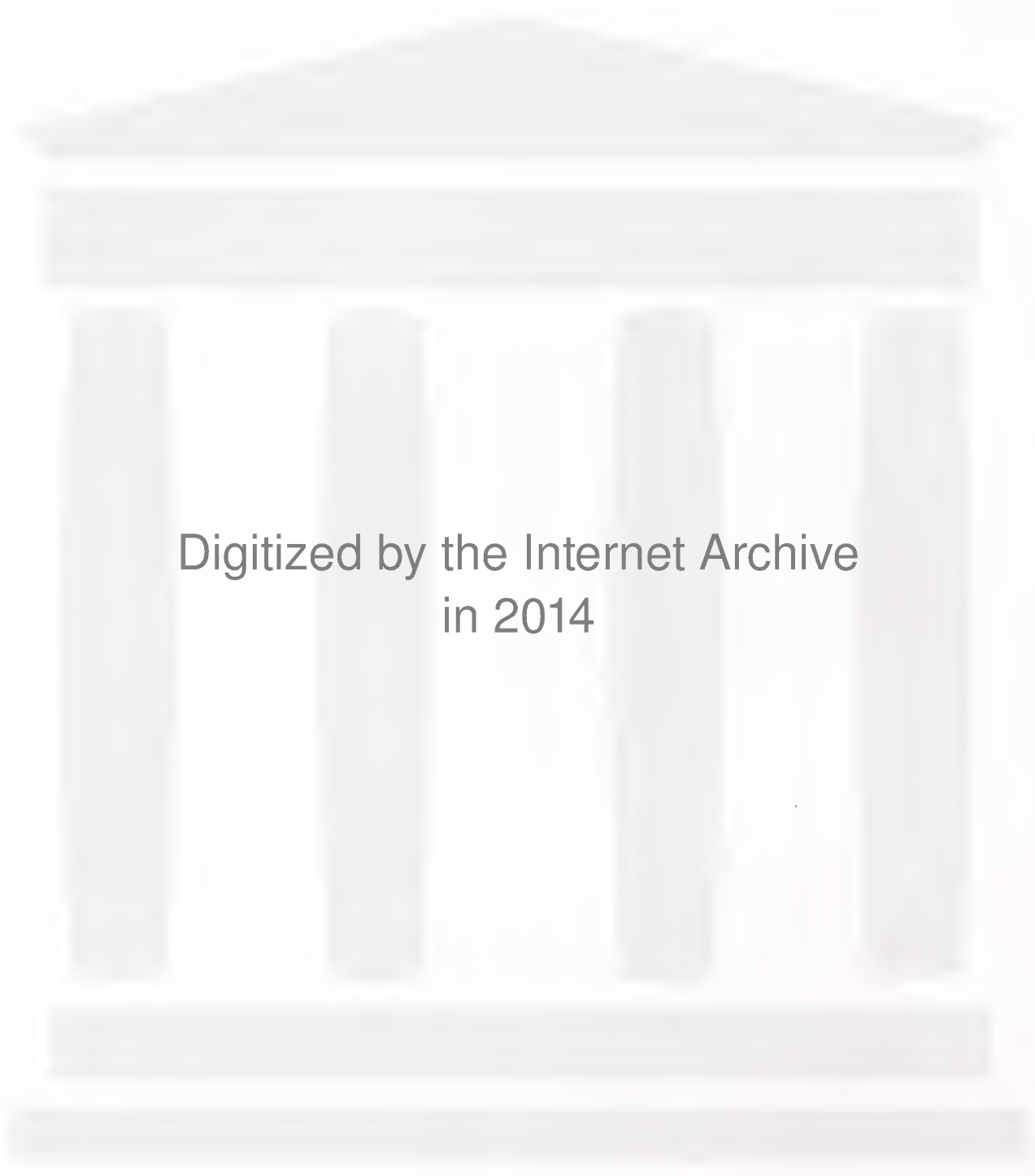
Julio Morales, legal, has resigned to become Helena's new police judge. Julio was selected from 14 applicants and "is highly qualified and capable of administering the duties of police judge," according to Mayor Steven Keim.

The Jackson Stables of Helena won both sections of the Treasure State Futurity at the State Fair August 4th. Greg Jackson, traffic section, and his brother are the owners of the Jackson Stables.

W.D. LeRoux, former detailer in road design, has been named new commission secretary.

A retirement luncheon was held for Howard T. Buswell, administrator-centralized services, and John D. Wheeler, commission secretary on June 28 at the Colonial Hilton. The ballroom was filled for

(continued on page 8)



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

Sign Shop Is Busy Place

New Techniques Keep Crew Hopping

Does \$400,000 Business Each Year



Bill Andresen applies heat process to new signs.

Montana initiated a sign shop in 1935, in a small section of a maintenance building. That first year Ace Kindrick produced close to 100 historical markers and road signs "as needed." Expenses for that first year of operation were under \$15,000. Today, the Department of Highways spends \$402,196 for the program each year, for almost 25,000 signs. One stop sign costs approximately \$16.25.

Since 1955 the sign shop has been located near the highway shop headquarters at the fairgrounds in Helena. The three-man crew is supervised by Gerry Boone, who recently received his ten year service award. Ray Gill, with four years experience, Bill Andresen, former owner of a sign company, and Henry Farrow, carpenter, comprise the talented group.

Making a sign

Signs are made on wood or aluminum on specifically cut blanks. Backgrounds are of paint or reflectorized sheeting. Precut letters, also of reflectorized material, are arranged on the backing and then "baked" in a huge 190° vacuum applicator for three minutes, which activates the adhesive.

Sign symbols and some lettering are transferred by a silk screen process. Each sign type requires a separate screen. "At present, we have an inventory of about 50 screens," says Ray Gill, who frames the screens, reproduces the design and uses them daily. Silk for the screens costs about \$9.00 a yard.



Ray Gill silk screens a sign.



Ray prepares a group of letters which will be cut apart later.

A new technique used to make signs is photography, which allows the use of script lettering and a more intricate picture.

All paints, excluding black, are transparent—and very expensive. Gerry Boone noted that one gallon of red paint costs \$74.20.

Types of signs

Symbol signing and color are the newest ways to convey a message which must be read and understood at driving speeds up to 65 m.p.h. The uniformity of these signs, regulated by the Federal Highway Administration, simplifies the comprehension and therefore quickens response time.

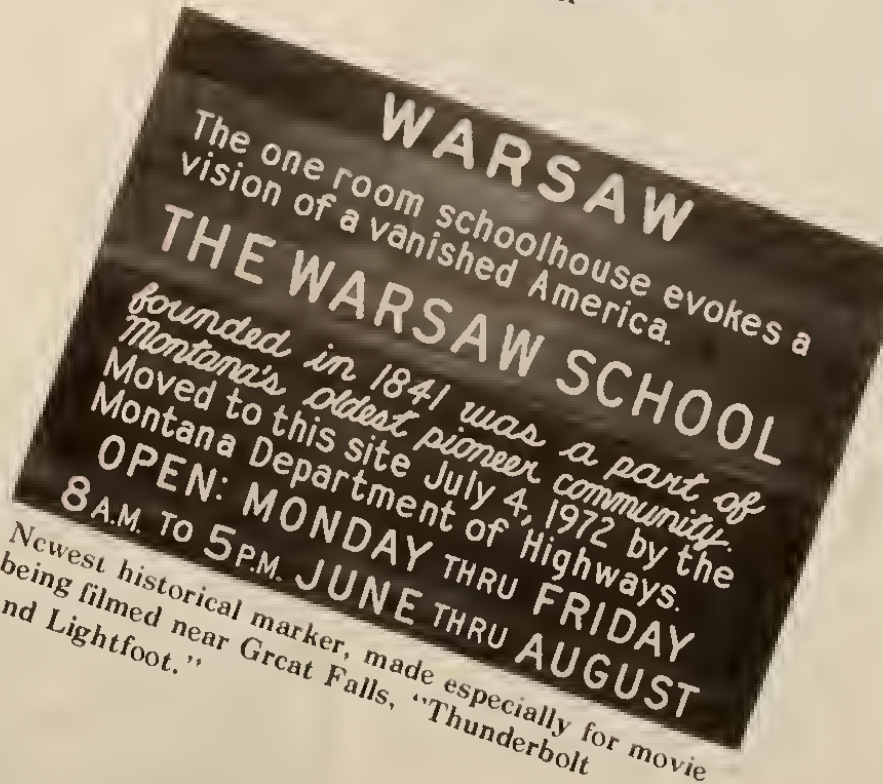
Sign shapes have meanings—an octagon shape is used exclusively for stop signs; horizontal rectangles denote guide signs; equilateral triangles signify yield signs; a diamond warns of existing or possible roadway hazards; and a vertical rectangle is a regulatory sign.

Specific colors are used universally—red indicates stop or a prohibition; green shows movement permitted or gives directional guidance; yellow indicates a general warning; black or white indicates regulatory signs such as for speed limits; orange conveys construction and maintenance warnings; and blue is used for scenic guidance.

Every October each of the eleven divisions estimates how many signs will have to be replaced and new signs added. These requests are compiled at the sign shop and a "busy season" results. This year too, each division conducted a sign survey for



WASHO Welcome sign was prepared for June convention.



Bill removes backing from 3-M cut letters for directional sign.

computer inventory. Therefore, future placement of signs with the correct legends will be systemized.

One time signs

Extra projects require special skills of the sign shop employees. Gerry Boone remembers the sign for the centennial train. "It was 300 feet long, eight feet high, required 75 sheets of plywood and read 'Montana, The Big Sky Country' in six-foot letters." Boone indicated a sign like that, once in a hundred years, was enough!

Montanans have always been proud of the unique wooden historical markers. Whereas the early signs were painted, they are now routed out by hand. Two new ones are made each year. The newest marker, in the finishing stages, will be placed at Wolf Point, commemorating "The Wood Mountain Trail". Routing out each wooden letter is tedious, but the results are a work of art.

And so a sign is born—an expensive, one man—one sign operation, then carefully placed to serve out its time. That time could be up to five years, but few signs die a natural death. Too many are vandalized. Over \$25,000 a year is spent by the Montana Department of Highways because of sign vandalism—a serious, hazardous, wasteful problem.

The smell of paint and a few friendly directions will help you find the sign shop if you should happen to visit. The crew has been so busy they haven't had time to make a sign for their own shop!

WITH THE DIVISIONS



Bonnie Borgmann, Howard Buswell, John D. Wheeler, Bea Eddlemon
(continued from page 5)

the occasion. Honoring the retirees were George Schotte, Small Business Administration and Highway Users Federation; Harold N. Stewart, Federal Highway Administration; George Vucanovich, Chairman Montana Highway Commission; G. R. Cooney, Montana Highway Commission; H. J. Anderson, Director of Highways, all of whom made speeches of congratulations. Both men received silver serving dishes from the Commissioners, and checks from department employees. Later in the day, coffee and cake were served in the Commission room.

Lisa Conger, Highway Hostess in the lobby of headquarters building, has had a steady stream of tourists seeking information about travel in Montana. Apparently the gasoline shortage has been surmounted by many travelers. Nearly every state and many foreign countries have been noted in the guest book. Among the comments she has received was from the Lincoln A. Dester family of Wilbraham, Mass., who complimented Montana on good roads and said he'd never enjoyed traveling a road as much as the one to St. Mary, near Glacier Park. "A marvelous piece of engineering!"

On the 31st of July, a new face and figure was seen in the corridors of the Montana Department of Highways—headquarters building—in the person of Jack Whitaker, starting to settle into the position of Public Relations Coordinator. In

time, after an intensive briefing period, he will visit division offices on a regular schedule in an effort to tie more closely together the activities of headquarters P.R. and those of the divisions.

Jack, a native of Great Falls, has spent the last dozen or so years in similar positions for heavy construction firms, for property owners and the City of Great Falls. He emphasizes that his major asset for the P.R. work force is an intense liking and respect for people.



Whitaker

Jack will soon begin a swing about the state, with the principal purpose of introducing himself and becoming acquainted with division personnel. He will also appreciate being briefed on any P.R. problem areas. If any such problems exist, these can be discussed with headquarters P.R. personnel and possible solutions worked out. The functions of the Information Unit will be more effective as an enthusiastic liaison is developed between headquarters P.R. and the individual division offices.

Great Falls

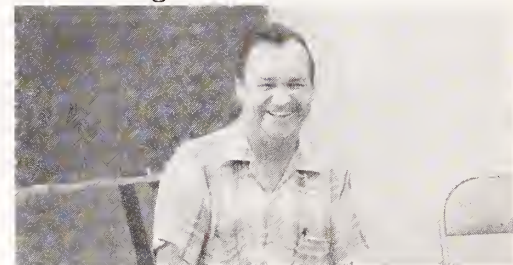
Ciel Tinelli

Seems as if misery loves company, so say Dena and John Walker. She broke her ankle in a fall, so John appointed himself chief cook and bottle washer, only he got real sick on his own menus. Both are recuperating at the present time.

Arabelle Foster, Martha Ellis and Ann Richards were all hospitalized this last month; all now on the mend, so hubbies Clyde, Jim and Elmer can relinquish their household duties and get on with golfing, gardening and poker...ha.

Barbara McLaughlin (Phil's wife) parted with her tonsils and Frank Kitchingman spent several days in the hospital with minor surgery.

Larry Lesofski left us. Yup, just up and transferred to Helena to become Special Assignments Engineer, taking Jay Duba's place. We hated to see him go but wished him well during a cake and coffee session.



Lesofski

Etsel Woolsey will be retiring the end of July after 31 years as sectionman at Cascade. By the time we go to press we will have wished him success and happiness and honored him with a reception. He is a born fisherman, so we know how he will be spending his leisure hours and we are going to miss Etsel very much.

Ray Wiley snapped this shot of me sweeping around the highway yard with the new broom, with the help of



WITH THE DIVISIONS

co-pilot Sam Gustovich, of course. Again, just putting in a plug for Women's Lib.

Ken Trovatten tied the matrimonial knot with Emily Rust and now their hobby is traveling along in their pickup camper.

Dale Sirucek was one of ten qualified to attend a weekend National Guard Base Recovery Seminar at Klamath Falls, Oregon sometime the end of July.

When it was rumored around that the lab was going to the dogs, the boys decided to dispose of their new-found friends, two labradors and a cocker spaniel, so the local poundmaster was called and he in turn left with a bite out of his trousers and minus a small beagle from his van. Oh well, win a few, lose a few, so say the boys.

Ken Jorgenson, rodman, resigned to take up a similar position with the city of Great Falls engineering department.

Tony Tomich, manager field project unit, donated quite a few golden willows to enhance our yard, and to see that the job was done properly he planted them himself, with the aid of Gary Steen. Us gals are looking forward to sitting under



the shade of willow trees and eating our lunches. You wanna bet? That we will have shade, I mean?

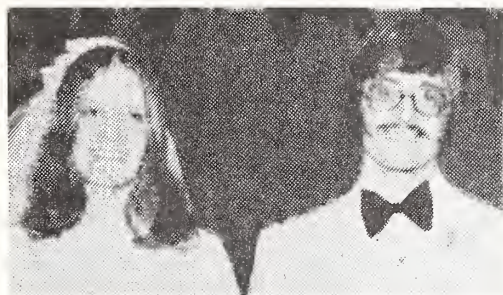
Dale Moore, Barb and family spent their vacation with her brother in Livermore, Calif. They took in Disneyland and San Francisco, and hobnobbed with Jerry Smith of the Redskins. Dale said he really liked lying around those swimming pools, hmmm, probably several reasons.

Miles City

Jean Sweeney

Sheila Seiler, daughter of Connie and Dean Seiler, chief-field mainten-

ance bureau, became the bride of Tim Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Miller of Miles City in a June 10th wedding at the First Methodist



Sheila, Tim

Church in Miles City. A reception followed the ceremony in the church parlor. The couple are both graduates of Custer County High School. After a wedding trip to Red Lodge, the couple are making their home in Miles City where both are employed.

Three of our Miles City highway personnel took top honors in the recent Men's City Tournament held at both the Recreation and Red Rock Lanes. The men are Del Borer, manager-field project unit II; Art Braut, division materials supervisor, and Larry Nelson, lab technician IV. All are on the Motor Service team which took top honors in the tournament with a team total of 3,050 pins. Congratulations fellows, great going.

Connie and Dean Seiler were completely surprised with a party hosted by their children and relatives honoring their 25th wedding anniversary. The party was held at the Crossroads Inn in the Champagne room, and was the night before their daughter Sheila's wedding when all the friends and relatives from near and distant places were all here for the wedding, which really added to the surprise element.

The Ken Rapps and their five children had a really nice vacation traveling around the state in a pickup-camper that Ken borrowed from his dad. The kids really loved it and lived it up. Joann and Ken enjoyed it, too. Ken is supervisor-division construction section in the Miles City division.

Mardie Vaagen, clerk in the Miles City office, and husband, Marvin purchased a pickup-camper recently and along with their two children got

to enjoy it on their vacation which took them into Wyoming and then into North Dakota.

Dave Goodson, stockman, has really been busy this summer. He is building his own 3-bedroom home with a large attached 2-car garage. The work all has to be done evenings and on weekends and it is now really taking shape and looks like a dandy. It seemed like it rained almost every weekend when Dave was first starting his house this spring, but now we have had quite a dry spell.

Barbara and Guy Gibson, maintenanceman 3, are grandparents for the first time with the birth of a baby girl to their daughter and husband, Wanda and Wayne Holmlund on May 26. The little girl has been named Angela Kay. Congratulations to the new grandparents and parents.

Jim and Tresia Clark are the proud parents of a baby girl born July 12 in a Glendive hospital. This is their first child and she has been named Jacqueline Eleanor. Jim says they are going to call her "Jac." Jim is our maintenanceman II headquartered at Hillside where he helps Sectionman Bill Schmidt. The baby's paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. June Clark, sectionman at Forsyth. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents.

Nancy and Dick Pierce, daughter and son-in-law of Rosie and Robert Lamb, maintenance foreman, were recent visitors at the Lamb home in Miles City. Nancy teaches home economics in Reno, Nev. and Dick is with the law enforcement at Reno. At the present time he is going to a law enforcement school in Los Angeles.

Art Braut, Miles City division materials supervisor and Beverly Murfitt of Helena, were married in Helena at a private ceremony June 18. The Bob Rasks, Helena lab, were the attendants. Bev had been employed by the Montana Merit System office in Helena. She has a son, Sam, and a daughter, Diane, who are both married and Art has a married son, Paul who lives in Miles City and a daughter, Judy who is a sophomore in nurses training at Miles City Community College.

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Butte

— Karen Markovich —

Sandra Hungerford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Derryl Hungerford, was married on June 9 to Roger Hansen of Butte. They will make their home in Butte. Sandra's father is well-known in the right of way department in Butte.

A May wedding united Sally Lou Martinsen and Scott Leavitt Bardsley. They will make their home in Missoula. Sally is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evan I. Martinsen. Evan is the review appraiser for the Butte district. We wish them all the best of luck.

Derryl Hungerford is now convalescing at home from recent open heart surgery, successfully performed at St. Joseph Hospital, Phoenix, Ariz. His corner of the office has been just too quiet. We hope he will soon be back in circulation.

Dental appointments are hard to get, we know, so remember that right of way agent Pat Kane is quite the artiste in this specialized field. Just the other day, Pat had a molar that was really giving him a bad time; he kept working away at the tooth and finally got it loose enough to pull; he went out into the shop and got a pair of pliers and out came the tooth. So if anyone has dental problems you can contact Pat Kane in the right of way department.

The Montana Association of Highway employees held their annual summer picnic July 7 at Basin Creek Reservoir. George Buckman and Sam Stanisich hold honors for their excellent job on the cooking end. The food was delicious, the weather was perfect, the kids were all happy with their game prizes and all the pop and ice cream they could want. Several beautiful trophies were given away to the first place winners in the events. Once in awhile a kiss was the prize for one of the guys and girls in the races. Teri and Mike could tell you more about that.

The chug-a-lug was one of the biggest events of the day for both men and women. Just ask Jackie Deighton's sister, Bonnie, and Gary Gilmore, they really felt the glory of

being "firsts." As it all turned out, the picnic was a big success with everyone looking forward to next year's event. Thanks go to all who helped with the picnic. It just goes to show that we are all one big happy family in the Butte division.

The John Mortensens are really happy these days...they have just moved into their new home at 1215 West Aluminum Street. The right of way department wishes its coordinator many, many years of happiness for John, Diana, Shelly, and Bobbi.

Since our last news Bob Fischer, in the construction department, has been recovering from a minor operation. He is back at his desk in tip-top shape now and we are all glad to see you, Bob.

Harold (Peachy) Mazzolini feels much relief at having his wife, June home from the Deaconess Hospital in Billings. June underwent several surgeries during her 77 days stay at Deaconess. We all want her to know that our very best thoughts are with her. Peachy is a floorman in the Butte Division shop.

An extended hand goes out to the following men for their years of service and loyalty to the department: Richard Matthew, 20 years; William Doble, 10 years; Gary Dees, 15 years; John W. Colvin, 15 years; Richard Anderson, 20 years. Keep up the good work, fellas.

Bozeman

— Pat Letendre —

With construction season in full swing and summer maintenance keeping all hands busy, this column could conceivably be filled with new hires, transfers and resignations. Construction garnered the lion's share of employees with the hiring of Barry Sigler, Craig Ingram, Orville Chapman, Don Rich, Russell Funk, Rip Cook, John Pfefferkorn and Dennis Willert.

Transferring to Bozeman from Missoula were Roger Blossom, Jim Fristo, Jim Lyon, Henry Hubert and Wayne Johnson. According to our statistician that makes a total of seven additional vocal fans at the Bobcat-Grizzly shouting sessions.

Leaving our fold were Jan Camp and Barbara McGuire. Barb, a

10-year employee, and the Centerline correspondent since its revival, is moving to Salt Lake City where her husband is now an independent trucker. Instead of the usual coffee and cake farewell party, Barb was guest of honor at a potluck lawn party held at Dennis Williams' home. The weather, naturally, did not cooperate and a rousing goodbye was given to Barb via the family room route.

With Barb's departure, some desk changes resulted. Ronda Planichek moved lock, stock and union records into the communications room and Pat Letendre moved to the payroll desk. Harold Roby is firmly entrenched at his desk with piles of papers surrounding him.

Al Pierce, superintendent-field maintenance section at Carbella, received a certificate of commendation and a highly complimentary letter from the district ranger at Gardiner. The certificate is for Al's "initiative and cooperation with the Gallatin National Forest personnel serving the traveling public along U.S. 89." Good work, Al.

A sidelight to the Wally Byam Caravan's National Rally held in Bozeman recently was Cliff Farrington's mother, age 74, winning the spin casting tournament for all rally members.

The vacation season has kept the mailmen busy delivering the cards from hither and yon. Margaret and E.P. Elgen enjoyed an interesting trip to Washington, D.C. He notes that since his return the dollar seems to be more sound and domestic issues are being resolved in quick order. Hmmm! Jim Townsend and family are touring Alaska. The Guy Hembree family toured the Black Hills, but returned minus any gold.

Recuperating from surgery and doing quite nicely are Bud Jackson, superintendent-field maintenance section at Wilsall, and Ruth Steele, wife of our working shop foreman, Bill Steele.

Ethel Ford, wife of Bill Ford, shop foreman, had her picture in the local newspaper. She was pictured receiving a certificate commending her for doing a great job in all aspects of her work. Her recent promotion was also announced. Ethel works for

WITH THE DIVISIONS

the Soil Conservation Service.

The division picnic is scheduled for August 19th. This year the picnic will be held at Ennis and the maintenance crew there—Jack Gorman, George Sprout, Walt Ardisson and Craig Hayden—are busy preparing the town for our arrival.

A number of our employees are involved in the Old West activity of rodeoing. They troop around to rodeos on the weekends and return to work on Mondays a little more financially secure. We do not recommend this as a participant sport for all, but as a spectator sport you cannot beat it. The employees who are participants are Hup Davis, office manager; Larry McComb, maintenanceman 2 at Livingston; Gerry Cotant, rodman at Livingston; Swede Jensen, maintenanceman 2 at Bozeman; Ron Faw, engineering aide 1 at Big Timber; Reece Burns, rodman at Bozeman; and Harold Heath, instrumentman at Livingston.

Our very sincere sympathies are extended to the George Lemon family on the tragic death of their daughter, Donna. Their sorrow is shared by many and we only wish there was some way to relieve their grief.

Billings

James Young

Construction work uncovered dinosaur bones on the Interstate project near Pompeys Pillar. Excavation work was temporarily shut down on a section of the project to enable geologists from the Montana University system to examine the fossil find. Plaster of paris casts were made of the larger extinct reptile bones and sections of sand rock containing seashell fossils were removed to Montana Tech in Butte for study at a later date. Wickens Brothers have the contract on this portion of the Interstate system and Mike Zahn is project manager for the Department of Highways on the Pompeys Pillar East section.

Approximately 65 new pickups and automobiles were delivered to Billings in June and July for distribution to State Motor Pools in the eastern part of the state. William

Blake, administrator of motor pool, was on hand to check some of the first automobiles delivered. It is reported that the Convoy Company will deliver to Helena and Great Falls a like number of cars for use in those areas. Included in the shipment were new Chevrolet pickups, Chevelle cars, and several



Ford Maverick cars. Tony Shore, Billings motor pool dispatcher, reports 45 automobiles and pickups and 20 trucks should complete the order.

After an urgent request for blood donors during open heart surgery at a Billings hospital, five employees volunteered. Those donating were Sharon Graham, Bill Contreraz, John Miner, C.O. Gransberg, and Jim Stoner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wichman are the parents of a 7 lb. daughter named Greta. The Wichmans have a two-year-old son Rodney. John is employed by the Billings right of way unit.

Construction will begin soon on a five-mile section of the Red Lodge-Rockvale road. The contract will begin at the western city limits of Joliet and will extend to a point just east of Boyd. Included in the contract will be a new bridge over Rock Creek. Walt Reichenberg, project manager, said that we will open a field office in the town of Joliet. Those moving with Walt are Gene Smith, Herb Ottman, Everett Williams, Ray Jackson, and Rod Grinde.

Earl Brown, office manager, was notified that his mother-in-law, Mrs. Louise Pierce, of Miles City was injured in a traffic accident in that city. Mrs. Pierce was struck by a car as she was crossing a city street. She

suffered cuts and bruises and is recuperating at the Brown's home in Billings.

Earl reports that his son, James was married in Billings July 7. The private ceremony was held at the home of the bride, Cheryl Simmonson, with family and friends attending. They will reside in Casper, Wyo.

Clarence Walth with the right of way department and his wife, Gail are busy building a new home at 1235 Terry Avenue in Billings. Gail is by far the better carpenter—if calouses mean anything.

Herb Noennig, radio engineer, is assisting in the installation of a new four-rank organ in the Apostles Lutheran-Wisconsin Synod Church at 32nd Street West and Broadwater Avenue in Billings. Herb has worked on many church organs in Montana and has made several electronic organs in his spare time. A very talented lad, Herb, can even play the organ.

John was on a real nice golf course, in a city near here, a three par hole was next. His drive was straight, over the water trap, on the green, and plunk right in the old cup. Beautiful shot, like all hole-in-one shots should be made—almost. Only one or two things wrong...it was the second ball, the first was lost in the water. With some satisfaction, he said after he reached the 19th hole, "I think I parred that (blank) hole, or did I?" Some days nothing goes right. Innkeeper, make that one more double, please.

Speaking of golfers, and I think we were, Walter Ward, retired designer, was in the office the other day. He looks great. Walt said the golfing is really good this summer.

Jack McGee, retired maintenance chief, was in a local store last weekend selecting a suitable finish for one of his drivers. He never did say how the driver got all scratched up. If he was in the sagebrush you can bet with his drive it was a long way out there. Why didn't you just throw the darn thing back, Jack?

Ted Weiss made a hole in one June 14 at Men's League night at the Lake Hills Golf Course.

Billings personnel wish to extend sincere words of sympathy to Mrs.

WITH THE DIVISIONS

Paul Johnson and family. Those of us who worked for and with Paul respected and admired him. He will be missed by all of us.

Dave Keehn, machinest, driving his Reno Club special, has broken the Billings speedway stock car racing record and holds high points for the June championship race. He is high point man for this year in state championship competition. Dave races with a 1957 Chevy 2-door sedan, in D Class stock car races. His three sponsors are the Reno Club, Johnson Auto Wrecking, and John I. Nickle, Snap-on Tools.



"This has been a most rewarding hobby," comments Dave. "The thrill of racing in a car you have personally checked every part of, and pride in winning first place cash and trophies, you just cannot beat this type of sport." Dave has raced for the past 12 years, six years in Minnesota and six years in Montana. He has had only one minor accident in that time. Dave will move up from D Stock to Super Stock next year. Super Stock cars can be modified extensively: special rebuilt engines, reverse wheels, and larger G tires. Both classes have roll bars, door guard bars and drivers cages.

Frank Moore, mechanic, announces for sports programs at the Billings speedway race track and at all motorcycle events.

Kalispell

— Bob Finley —

Among those taking advantage of the summer vacation are the Double D. Mattheisens, who sojourned to Indiana, and Mrs. D. received second-degree burns on her arm from resting it on the window while traveling.

The day after Marvel Nichol

cleaned out her desk, she picked up hubby, Nick and headed for a trip through South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota, and will culminate it with a family reunion.

Just returned from one of those clan gatherings myself, and at both family reunions (spouse and self) found there were, as Gilbert and Sullivan put it, "Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins, which we have by the dozens." Was acutely reminded of the gas shortage in the eastern part of the country.

Still in the planning stage is a float trip down the south fork of the Flathead and Ray Munsinger and Tom Barnard are going through equipment lists prior to the trip.

The long, dry spell has started a few conflagrations in the area and the sky is filled with the W.W. II bombers dropping Borate. Got a good look at the blackened area back of Joe's Smoke Ring number three at Elmo this morning. I strongly suspect some of the members of the tribe at Elmo were doing a few rain dances as the sooted area is fairly close to some of the habitats.

A surprise baby shower was given Linda Miller just prior to her maternity leave and coffee and cake for Roger Anderson when he left the ranks of the highway gang.

Faye Strong is our new permanent replacement and Maureena Graham is our new temporary gal in the front office. Welcome to the club, gals. Will attempt to list some of the other changes and hope I don't slight anyone. Gene Flint transferred to Marion section; Bill Price made it through the winter as sectionman at Summit but took a transfer to Eureka as a helper; Bob Beller, who has worked several summers with us is going to Summit (gonna miss him at Moose's Emporium); Bert Johnson left engineers and is with maintenance at Bigfork; Bill Sands left Elmo to take over duties at Summit (see you at the next party Bill); Victor Lefthand is the new helper at Elmo and Don Decker left the shop to take over the Elmo section (bet the hills will have lots of snocat tracks this fall); Joe Sanders went to Thompson Falls; Bert Postelthwaite to Crystal Creek and

Clayton Colby is the new nightman replacing Gene Flint.



A Dutch luncheon was held to present awards for service as follows: Bob Finley and Loren Dollan, both 20 years; Gary Jones, Ken Chrisinger, Ray Munsinger and Ken Sampson, all 10 years, and Tom Barnard with five years of service.

Dropped in at F.W. Woolworths the other night and met many of the highway gang blowing their cost-of-living raise there.

Popped down to see how the cherry crop was doing and stopped over at the Jerry Roat orchard..like WOW man...choppers, hogs, harleys, leather vests, shades...the whole bit. Looked like the national convention of Hell's Angels but it was in reality the Banditos. One could readily change the name from Finley Point to Hog Haven, with Jerry's long sideburns it was hard to tell him from Fat Cat. The real goodies like Lamberts and Bings are not ready but some of the pollenizers and Royal Annes were ripe enough to eat.

Speaking of bikes, several of the crew are pumping to work now and looking hale and hearty. Could be the Geritol they are buying with money saved from gas. Among those in the ecology kick are Ken Chrisinger, Jack Hunt and John Kalien. Ray Munsinger seemed to lose interest in the bike riding after a week or so and has gone back to the more conventional form of transportation. Thought perhaps Wayne Gryde and Howard Stockwell might take up some form of exercise preparatory to the annual golf tourney but if they are doing it, it is on the Q.T. Tom Barnard is still trying out the new camper and Howard Kyriss is remodeling the model he bought from Tom in the exchange.